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NPIC/PEG (9/83)

LAUNCH POSITION FOR NEW SLV
SRI HARIKOTA SPACE LAUNCH FACILITY, INDIA

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1. **SIGNIFICANCE:** ADDITIONAL CONSTRUCTION AT THE PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED NEW LAUNCH POSITION AT THIS SPACE LAUNCH FACILITY INDICATES THAT A NEW TYPE SPACE LAUNCH VEHICLE (SLV) WILL BE LAUNCHED FROM HERE. (SWN)
2. **REMARKS:** A NEW SERVICE RAIL LINE IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION WHICH EXTENDS TO THE NORTHWEST FROM THE NEW LAUNCH POSITION. THE SERVICE RAIL LINE, WHICH DOES NOT TRAVERSE THE LAUNCH PAD, MAY BE FOR A MOBILE SERVICE GANTRY OR POSSIBLY FOR A RAIL-MOUNTED ENVIRONMENTAL SHELTER SIMILAR TO THE ONE SERVING THE ORIGINAL LAUNCH POSITION. THE SERVICE RAIL LINE [] WIDE AND APPROXIMATELY 90 METERS IN LENGTH. THE WIDTH OF THE SERVICE RAIL LINE INDICATES THAT AN SLV LARGER THAN THE SLV-3 WILL BE LAUNCHED FROM THE NEW LAUNCH POSITION. CONSTRUCTION OF THE RAIL LINE WAS NOT OBSERVED [] WHEN THIS FACILITY WAS LAST IMAGED. (SWN)

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THE ORIGINAL LAUNCH POSITION IS USED TO LAUNCH THE SLV-3, A 17-TON, FOUR-STAGE SOLID PROPELLANT LAUNCH VEHICLE. WHEN COMPLETED, THE NEW LAUNCH POSITION, WHICH IS 150 METERS NORTH OF THE ORIGINAL LAUNCH POSITION, WILL BE USED TO LAUNCH THE NEW, LARGER SLV BY 1985. SRI HARIKOTA SPACE LAUNCH FACILITY, 36 NM NORTH OF MADRAS ON THE BAY OF BENGAL, IS INDIA'S ONLY SPACE LAUNCH FACILITY. (SWN)

3. [] COORDINATES 13-40-25N 080-13-35E

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WARNING NOTICE
Intelligence Sources
and Methods Involved

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